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L I T E R A T U R E.

M O N D A Y, December 10. 1711.

BERNARDINI RAMAZZINI in Patavino Gymnasio Practicæ Medicinæ Professoris Primarii, de Principum Valetudine tuenda Commentatio, dicata Serenissimo Mutinæ Principi FRANCISCO ESTENSI. Accessit præter Indicem rerum, Vita Autoris & nova Præfatio MICHAELIS ERNESTI ETMULLERI, Philos. & Med. D. Anatomiae & Chir. Prof. Publ. Extraord. Facultatis Medicæ Lipsiens. Assess. & Academiae Naturæ Curios. Collegæ. Juxta Exemplar excusum Patavii, sumptibus Jo. Frider. Gleditsch & Filii, Bibliopol. Lips. MDCCXI.

That is, *A TREATISE shewing how the Health of Princes may be preserved*, by **BERNARDIN RAMAZZINI** Professor of Physick in the University of Padua. To which is added the Life of the Author and a new Preface by **MICHAEL ERNESTUS ETMULLER**, Doctor of Physick, Professor of Anatomy, &c. at Leipfick. Reprinted from the Copy of Padua. Leipfick, 1711. in 8vo. Pagg. 144. Sold by Paul Vaillant in the Strand.

THE Publick is very much indebted to Dr. *Etmuller* for Reprinting this Excellent Treatise publish'd last Year at Padua, and adding to it a short Account of the Author's Life. I have read this Work with great Satisfaction, and I presume that a large Extract of it will not be unacceptable to the Readers.

I. Dr. *Ramazzini* was born at Modena. Af-

ter he had given several Proofs of his great Ability in the Art of Physick, he was made Professor in the College of that City, and raised his Reputation by several Learned Performances. His first Production came out in the Year 1680. A Lady of *Modena* being delivered of a Child, without the After-burden, was tormented with violent Symptoms, and dyed Six Hours after. The Doctor was desired to publish an Account of that Accident. When that Piece came to the Hands of Dr. *Moneglia*, Professor of Physick in the University of *Pisa*, he undertook to cry down the Author by Word of Mouth and in Writing, pretending that the After-burden should have been taken out by any means. Dr. *Ramazzini* publish'd a new Piece in his Vindication. The Professor of *Pisa* confuted it in a Book printed at *Florence*. This Dispute lasted Two Years, and might have continued longer, had not the Congregation of *Rome* put an end to it.

The next Work of Dr. *Ramazzini* was a Dissertation de Constitutione Anni 1690. ac de rurali Epidemica, quæ Agri Mutinensis & vicinarum regionum colonos graviter afflixit: Wherein he also enquired into the Nature of a Blast, which had occasioned a great scarcity of Corn and Fruit. He believes that Blasts are produced by a Dew containing a great Quantity of volatile saline Particles. A vast Number of nitrous and acid Particles (says he) arising from the Earth, and dispersed through the Air, mix themselves with saline Particles, and fermenting together form a Liquor, which falls like Dew, and sticking to Plants taints them with Spots of several Colours. He alledges some Experiments to prove that Blasts are much more the Effect of an acid and corrosive Acrimony, not unlike the Spirit of Nitre and Vitriol, than of an Alcaline Acrimony arising from a sharp and caustick Salt. The Doctor went on with the same Work, and publish'd some other Dissertations concerning the Temperature of the Years 1691, 1692, 1693, 1694.

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In 1691. he put out a curious Treatise *de fontium Mutinensium admiranda scaturigine*, wherein he shews, that any one may have with small Charges a Fountain of running Water in any Part of *Modena*, and of the Dutchy of that Name.

In the Year 1695. the Doctor publish'd his *Ephemerides Barometricæ Mutinenses Anni 1694. una cum disquisitione causæ ascensus & descensus Mercurii in Torricelliana fistula juxta aeris statum diversum*. This Piece contains several Observations, whereby the Author found that Mercury did always sink in the Barometer, in Cloudy, Rainy, or Snowy Weather, and on the contrary, ascended, when the Weather was clear; which is inconsistent with the Principles of *Borellus*, and the Observations of some other Authors. Dr. *Etmuller* shews how Dr. *Ramazzini* explains that *Phænomenon*.

He publish'd in 1698. a second Edition of the following Book, *Francisci Ariostii de oleo Montis Zibinii, seu Petroleo agri Mutinensis Libellus, è MSS. membranis editus ab Oligero Jacobeo, Hafniæ Anno 1690.*

An Author, who had made himself so famous by so many valuable Pieces, deserved to appear upon a nobler Stage; and therefore he was call'd to *Padua* in the Year 1700. to be Professor of Physick in that University. It was there that he publish'd his Treatise *de Morbis Artificum*, which met with so good a Reception, that it was reprinted at *Utrecht*, and translated into the German Language. He made every Year a publick Oration, wherein he treated a Subject relating to Physick or natural Philosophy. Those Orations are full of Learning, and written in a very clear and elegant Style. The first contains a Description of the Glory and Happiness of the XVIIth Century, in which, among other Discoveries, so many Improvements have been made in the Art of Physick. The Author shews in the Second, that the common People are much more easily cured by Physicians, than Princes or Persons distinguished by their noble Extraction. In the Third, he undertakes to prove, that the Theory and Practice of Fevers are still very imperfect. The Design of the Fourth, is to compare the Art of Physick with that of Navigation. In the Fifth, the Doctor would have a Physician to know what the common People say of him. In the Sixth, he shews that those Physicians, who design to excell in their Profession, ought to be skill'd in the Doctrine of the Ancients as well as in the Opinions of the Moderns. Dr. *Ramazzini* prefers, in the seventh Oration, plain and simple Remedies to Compositions. In the Eighth, he maintains that the Theory of Physick cannot pretend to over-rule the Practical Part. The Ninth contains an Account of the cold Winter of the Year 1709. The first seven Orations were printed in one Volume at *Padua* in 1708. with this Title, *Orationes Patrici argumenti, &c.* As for the Two last they have been printed by themselves. The excellent Treatise, which makes the Subject of this Article, is the last Production of the learned Author.

Dr. *Ramazzini* will, in all probability, enrich the Commonwealth of Learning with some other Performance not inferior to those, which have procured him so great a Reputation.

II. I proceed to Dr. *Etmuller's* Preface. The Doctor describes the Happiness of a good Health, and thinks that any one, who is sensible of the Advantages arising from it, will break out into these Words:

O Sanitas beata,		Reliquum agitare vitæ
O Sanitas amanda,		Liceat: Mibi perennis
O Sanitas colenda,		Comes adesto vitæ.
Tecum mibi beate		

Every Body, says Dr. *Etmuller*, desires to enjoy a good Health; but few People take care to preserve it. Hence it is that *Diogenes* the Cynick expressed his Indignation against those, who offered Sacrifices to the Gods for the Preservation of their Health, and at the same time spoiled it by feasting upon their Sacrifices. The Learned Editor owns that every Body is his own best Physician, and that his own Observations may very much contribute to prevent Diseases; but he adds, that the help of those who profess the Art of Physick, is of great Use for that end, and alledges several Reasons for it. Dr. *Etmuller* observes that among those Physicians, who made no great Account of a good Regimen, *Paracelsus* is the most remarkable. He drank Night and Day, and being seldom sober gave his Patients a full Liberty to eat and drink what they pleased.

In the next place, the Editor mentions some sickly Persons, who recover'd their Health, and lived to a great Age with the Help of a good Regimen. It does not appear (says he) that this Part of Physick, which concerns the Preservation of Health, was much cultivated before the Time of *Hippocrates*, who writ Three Books *de Dieta*. *Galen* followed his Steps, and treated the same Subject. Dr. *Etmuller*, in the last Part of his Preface, takes notice, not only of those Authors, who have prescribed General Rules to enjoy a long Health, but also of those, who writ particularly for the Use of Children, Old People, Men of Letters, Travellers, Sailors, and Soldiers. Lastly, He observes that Dr. *Ramazzini* is the first, who publish'd a Book of that Nature for the Use of Princes, and concludes with an Encomium upon that Work and the Author.

III. This Treatise contains XIV. Chapters, of which I shall give an Account in as few Words as I can.

I. The Author shews, that it is a great Happiness for a Nation, to have a Prince who enjoys a good Health. History affords several Instances of the Calamities occasion'd by the sickly Constitution of Kings. From whence Dr. *Ramazzini* infers, how necessary it is to take all possible Care of the Health of Sovereign Princes.

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II. The Qualities that are requisite to be a Prince's Physician, make the Subject of the Second Chapter. Travelling is one of the Qualifications mention'd by the Author. He very much commends the *Germans*, who travel in several Parts of *Europe*, before they apply themselves to the Practice of Physick. Dr. *Ramazzini* thinks it highly necessary, that a Prince should be kind to his Physician, and converse familiarly with him: But a Physician (says he) must not make an ill Use of the Prince's Favour, and imitate *James de Gorties* Physician to *Lewis XI.* King of *France*. That Physician being sensible that the King was afraid of Death, made him believe, that if he should turn him out, he would not live a Week. *Philip de Comines* informs us, that he reproved the King with as much Freedom, as if he had been his Servant; and that he was so covetous and so craving, that tho' he received Ten Thousand Gold Crowns every Month, he was never satisfied, and exercised a kind of Tyranny over his Master.

III. Dr. *Ramazzini*, having made several Observations concerning the Effects of the Air upon Human Bodies, advises a Physician to consider the Temper of a Prince, that he may live the greatest part of the Year in those Places where the Air agrees best with his Constitution. Whereupon the Author observes, that the Palaces of Princes, especially in *Italy*, are generally built near the Walls and Ditches of a Town, which are the most unwholesome Parts of it. He adds, That some Years ago being at *Modena* in the Summer and the Autumn, he observed that several People, who lived near the Town-Walls, died of Malignant Fevers; and that there was hardly any body sick of that Distemper among those who liv'd in other Parts of that City. From whence the Doctor infers, how necessary it is for the Preservation of Health, to live in a pure Air, without which the Transpiration can never be well perform'd.

The Author maintains, by Virtue of his Observations upon the Barometer, that the Air is heavier in clear Weather, and when a North-Wind blows, than in cloudy and rainy Weather. From whence he draws this Inference; That a thick Air lessens the Transpiration, not so much because it obstructs the Pores of the Skin, as because the Body is not so closely press'd by the Atmosphere, and therefore the Fibres must needs be relaxed. Whereas in clear Weather, the Air has a greater Force upon the Fibres, which by their Effort facilitate the Circulation of the Blood, whereby the Transpiration is more easily performed. A Physician must therefore consider the Nature of the Air, and the Temper of a Prince, that he may have a free Transpiration, than which nothing can be more effectual for the Preservation of his Health. The Author makes some other Observations, on which I cannot enlarge. I shall only take notice of one. When the Small-Pox (says

he) rages among Children, 'tis a Sign that the Air is corrupted. He adds, that he has frequently observed, that the Small-Pox has been attended with Epidemical Diseases, such as Malignant Fevers, and Dysentery.

IV. The Tables of Princes, says the Author, are full of such a Variety of Dishes, that their Health may easily be impaired by an Excess of Eating, which is the Cause of so many Diseases. Their Stomach has not a sufficient Time to digest Crudities. Besides, so many Sorts of Meats and Ragoos cannot be equally dissolved by one and the same Ferment; and the Blood, consisting of so many different Particles, can never attain to a perfect Mixture without disordering the Body; and therefore will not be proper for the Nourishment of the Parts, and enable them to perform their Functions. This gives the Author Occasion to take notice of a Passage in *Galen* relating to the Emperor *Commodus*. That Prince felt a violent Pain in his Stomach after Supper: He had a frequent and slow Pulse, which was look'd upon as a Sign of a Fever. *Galen* being sent for in the Night, declared that the Emperor had no Fever. *Commodus* ask'd him what was to be done. Whereupon that Physician gave him this Answer. "If any body else was taken with the same Illness, I would give him, as I use to do, some Wine mixed with Pepper; but because you are a King, it will be sufficient to lay upon the Orifice of the Stomach a Handful of Wool dipp'd in a hot Pigment of *Nard*". The Emperor being well pleased with the ingenuous Freedom of *Galen*, drank some *Sabine* Wine mixed with Pepper, and recover'd his Health.

Dr. *Ramazzini* does not approve Drinking several Sorts of Wine, and shews the ill Consequences of it. He recommends Sobriety, as being the only way of Enjoying a good Health, and attaining to Old Age; as it appears from those Ancient Hermits, who lived upon Roots and Dates, and from the famous *Lewis Cornaro*, a Noble *Venetian*, whose Excellent Book (says the Author) concerning the Advantages of a Sober Life deserves to be illustrated with a Commentary. That Learned Physician informs us, that he will perhaps undertake such a Work. He adds, That a Man's Stomach is the best Judge of the Quantity and Goodness of Food necessary to him; that those Aliments which are easily digested, and afford a quick Nourishment, ought to be accounted the best, and that, as *Lucretius* says;

Nec multum refert, quo victu corpus alatur,
Dummodo, quod capias, concoctum didere
[possis
Artubus, & stomachi humectum fervare re-
[norem.

This Extract will be continued.

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Father Martianay has publish'd the Life of Sister Magdalen of the Holy Sacrament, a Carmelite Nun.

La Vie de Soeur Madeleine du S. Sacrement, Religieuse Carmelite du Voile blanc, avec des reflexions sur l'excellence de ses vertus. Paris 1711. in 120. pagg. 235.

That Nun was born at St. Sever, a Town of Gasconne, in the Year 1617. and died at Bourdeaux at Fourscore Years of Age. We are told that her Death was attended with several Wonders. Sister Magdalen had many extraordinary Favours bestowed upon her by Heaven. "Being still in the World, she felt a wonderful Sweetness as often as she came near the Holy Table, to receive the Eucharist. That Sweetness (said she) was like a Fountain of Sweet Oil, which rendred the Use of the most Holy Sacrament very delicious to her". Whenever she consulted the Child Jesus, he gave her a plain Answer, which she heard inwardly. Here follows an Instance of it. "A Mendicant Fryar, being accused of maintaining a new and dangerous Doctrine, was like to prove a very unhappy Man; for his Brethren and Superiors, moved by a false Zeal, were resolved to prosecute him with the utmost Severity. Sister Magdalen was pitch'd upon to decide that Difference. The Superior of the Carmelite Nuns order'd her to beseech the Child Jesus to discover the Truth, and to reconcile a Community, that was threaten'd with a very fatal Discord. Magdalen said her Prayers, and then heard an inward Voice telling her very distinctly, that the Faith and Doctrine of the accused Monk were Orthodox. But because she did not understand the Signification of that Word, she could not tell whether the Child Jesus had acquitted the Friar, or whether he was guilty; and therefore she only said, with great Simplicity, that the Doctrine of that Religious was Orthodox, and ask'd what was the Meaning of it. This Answer removed all Suspicions, and secured from Persecution a Man, whose Faith was not approved by his Masters.

The Devotion of Sister Magdalen was accounted a Chimerical one by several Persons, even in her Convent. "Mother Anne, my Aunt, (says she in one of her Letters) cannot apprehend my Way. Tho' she has been my Prioress Fifteen Years, she is always uneasy, being of Opinion that I am mistaken. If it be so, I know nothing of it. . . . My Spirit is intolerable to Mother Anne. When she knows that I have been employed in any thing, or that I have spoken with some body, she is very angry with our Mother, because, says she, I have no Wit, nor Sense, nor Judgment.

[The Learned Bishop Stillingfleet publish'd a Curious Book, entitled, The Fanaticism of the Church of Rome.]

A Third Edition of a Body of Philosophy, compos'd by M. Pourchot, late Professor of that Science in Mazarin-College, is lately come out at Lyons.

Institutiones Philosophicae ad faciliorem veterum ac recentiorum Philosophorum lectionem comparatae. Editio tertia locupletior. Lugduni, 1711. in V Volumes in 120.

That Work is very much esteemed, because the Author has collect'd in a few Words, and very methodically, the best Things that are to be found upon the several Parts of Philosophy in the most celebrated Philosophers both ancient and modern. M. Pourchot has added several Curious Observations to this New Edition, and has not

forgot President Bon's Discovery concerning the Silk of Spiders *.

A New Edition of the *Candidatus Rhetoricæ* has been printed here from that of Father Juvenci lately publish'd at Rome.

Candidatus Rhetoricæ olim à Patre Francisco Pomey digestus. In hac Editione novissima à Patre Josepho Juvencio auctus, emendatus, & perpolitus. Paris, 1711. in 120. pagg. 360.

Father Juvenci has left out in this Edition whatever appear'd to him needless, and added many Things which he thought necessary. He has also alter'd the Method and Style of Father Pomey in several Places.

L O N D O N.

THE following Book has been lately publish'd.

The English Grammar: Or, an Essay on the Art of Grammar, applied to and exemplified in the English Tongue. By Michael Maittaire. London: Printed by W. B. for H. Clements at the Half-Moon in St. Paul's Church-yard. 1712. in 8vo. Pagg. 272.

Mr. Maittaire observes that the Art of Grammar is the Key to all Learning; "The Necessity of which (says he) was never call'd in Question but by the Ignorant; which none ever neglected, but who sometime or other paid very dear for't by betraying the want of that found Bottom either in Writing or common Discourse". The Author adds, that "it is now-a-days the miserable Fate of Grammar to be more whipp'd than taught", and appears very much concerned for it. He complains of another Hardship. "The Youths (says he) are forced to learn what they can't understand, being hurried into Latin, before they are well able to read English: As if this last were so despicable, that it needed not, or so barbarous, that it could not be digested into a Grammatical Method. The Ignorance of English (continues the Author) can never be a good Foundation or Ingredient towards disposing of Youth for the Learned Languages. The Knowledge of it must serve as an Introduction to them: else 'twill be in vain to expect they'll ever be an Improvement to that. What is not known can't be improved; and 'tis by the help of what we know, that we learn what we know not".

Mr. Maittaire declares, that he cannot find any tolerable Reason why the Fair Sex should be excluded from the Benefit of the Ancient Languages. "As for that tender Sex, (says he), which to set off we take so much Pains and use such Variety of Breeding, some for the Feet, some for the Hands, others for the Voice; what shall I call it, Cruelty or Ignorance, to debar them from the Accomplishments of Speech and Understanding? as if that Sex was (as certainly we by Experience find it is not) weak and defective in its Head and Brains.

This Grammar contains many useful Observations. The Author exemplifies in English the Rules of that Art, and draws a Parallel between that Language and the Learned ones; that the English may be an Introduction to them, if the young Beginner is designed for them; and if he is not, that he may be able to spell and read English distinctly, and to write and speak truly and sensibly upon any Subject whatsoever.

* An Account of that Discovery has been inserted in the XXth Sheet of these Memoirs.

L O N D O N: Printed by J. Roberts: And Sold by A. Baldwin, near the Oxford-Arms in Warwick-Lane. (Price 2 d.)